

front of the breast-work. The Khyheery horse were divided into two parties, and placed one hundred paces in rear of each flank, near the river, so that, had either flank been turned, these men would have been at hand to drive the enemy back, without requiring any man behind the breast work to leave his post.

Forty men of the Sinda horse, under a jemadar, defended on foot that part of the breast-work behind which they had encamped.

After posting the men, and seeing that each knew his position so as to fall in, in his proper place at a moment's warning, half the men were told off as a working party, to render the unfinished entrenchments as secure, as the limited time allowed us would admit of. By the evening I considered we were perfectly secure, having placed abattis, composed of babool trees, wherever we were unable to finish the trench.

Half the men during the day were always at their posts. At sunset every man fell in at his allotted station, and his arms, ammunition, &c. were carefully inspected. During the night sentries were placed, at intervals of twenty yards, the entire round of the works, the remaining men sleeping in their accoutrements, with the arms loaded by them; the officers doing the same. Outlying picquets of horse were stationed 250 yards outside the entrenchment on both flanks and front, who threw out videttes, and patrolled at the distance of from one to two miles from the works, each patrol crossing the other every half hour, and a report hourly delivered through the night. These at sunrise were withdrawn, and smaller parties of horse swept round the camp at four and five miles' distance during the day.

These were the arrangements I deemed proper for the defence of the camp, the charge of which I had the honour to be entrusted with by the Major-General and Governor in Sinda; and although no attack was made on the camp, still I hope I shall not be deemed presumptuous in declaring that, from the zeal and alacrity displayed by both officers and men under my command, there was no fear that, although our numbers were small, and the works extensive to defend, had we been attacked; we would have endeavoured to emulate the gallant example set us by the troops under the Major-General, more particularly after the reinforcement was received under Brevet Captain Unwin, artillery, consisting of forty European artillerymen, and two 68-pounder howitzers.

On the morning of the 24th March, we were reinforced by the Persian Prince Aga Khan, with twenty-five horsemen. He informed me that he had been driven out of Jurruck by 3000 Beloochees, with the loss on his side of 100 killed and wounded in action, out of 130.

Only on one occasion did I hear of any Beloochees being within four miles of me, and then Sirdar Ali Hussein, with eighty horse, was dispatched, just before daybreak, to reconnoitre, with orders to sweep the country for seven or eight miles round. He returned at ten A. M. and reported that no enemy was to be seen, or heard of. This proved to be the case, and, with the exception

of detached parties on the other side of the river progressing towards the hills, nothing more was heard of the enemy.

On the arrival of the Planet steamer from Sukkur, Lieutenant M'Leod, of the 20th regiment native infantry, volunteered his services, as also did Lieutenant Pottinger, of the 15th regiment native infantry, of which I gladly availed myself.

Sirdar Ali Hussein co-operated most zealously with me, as also did all his people. The Khyree chiefs, and their men, behaved also very well.

In conclusion, I beg to express my thanks for the assistance I received from the officers during the time I was in command of the entrenched camp.

I have, &c.

A. THOMAS.

Return of a Standard taken by the 1st Troop Horse Artillery, in the Action with the Enemy, on the 24th March 1843.

Camp, Allyar-ka-Tanda, March 26, 1843.

Stamped, blue and white linen, on a staff, surmounted with a wooden crescent, on which a motto is inscribed.—This standard was most gallantly captured close in front of the troop, by trumpeter Martin Phelan, just as the battery was coming into action, within a few paces of the enemy's right.

JOHN LLOYD, Major,
Commanding Artillery, Sinda.

JOHN THOS. LESLIE, Brevet
Major, Commanding 1st Troop
Horse Artillery.

Major P. F. Story, Commanding 9th Light Cavalry, to Lieutenant H. J. Pelly.

*Camp, Allyar-ka-Tanda,
March 28, 1843.*

SIR,

IN obedience to Division Orders, I have the honour to report, for the information of Major-General Sir C. J. Napier, K.C.B. commanding in Sinda and Beloochistan, that I am unable to particularize any individual who prominently distinguished himself in action on the 24th instant. I trust, however, the Major-General will not consider me presumptuous, in bringing to his notice the steadiness of the regiment when under a very heavy fire close in front of the village, on the enemy's right, and where we had the irreparable misfortune of losing a gallant and much esteemed officer, Captain Garrett. In the same place, Lieutenant Snow had his horse and shoulder scales struck by matchlock bullets.

The enemy appearing to occupy the village in great force, I did not consider myself justified in leaving the left of our guns exposed, before the order reached me, "cavalry to the front," when I immediately advanced, and came round the village, passing, in my way to the Fulaille, three